



#18/E

503.30414C14

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): KATO, et al.

Serial No.: 09/461,432

Filed: December 16, 1999

For: VACUUM PROCESSING APPARATUS AND OPERATING
METHOD THEREFOR

Group: 3749

Examiner: S. Gravini

Allowed: December 7, 2000

Batch No.: W11

Attn: Sherry Brinkley
Office of Petitions

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SUBMISSION UNDER 37 CFR §1.114

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box 313(B)
Washington, D.C. 20231

May 8, 2001

Sir:

Further amending the claims as proposed to be amended in the Further Amendment under 37 CFR §1.312, filed March 7, 2001, and to be entered after granting of the Petition to withdraw from Issue based on 37 CFR §1.313(c)(2) and granting of the concurrently filed Request for Continued Examination, please further amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims presently in the application as follows: